

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/JP03/09510

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl⁷ G06F3/12, B41J29/38, 29/46, H04N5/76, 5/91

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
Int.Cl⁷ G06F3/12, B41J29/38, 29/46, H04N5/76, 5/91

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 10-250190 A (Minolta Co., Ltd.), 22 September, 1998 (22.09.98), Par. Nos. [0017] to [0027]; Figs. 3 to 5 (Family: none)	1-6, 8-15
X	JP 11-240231 A (Minolta Co., Ltd.), 07 September, 1999 (07.09.99), Par. Nos. [0021] to [0035]; Figs. 4 to 6 (Family: none)	1-6, 8-15
X	JP 2002-59627 A (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.), 26 February, 2002 (26.02.02), Par. Nos. [0087] to [0103]; Fig. 8 & JP 3335991 B2 & US 2002/0021320 A1	1-6, 8-15

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

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- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
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- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
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Date of the actual completion of the international search
20 October, 2003 (20.10.03)

Date of mailing of the international search report
04 November, 2003 (04.11.03)

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	JP 2002-137506 A (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.), 14 May, 2002 (14.05.02), Par. Nos. [0013] to [0082]; Figs. 4, 6, 7 & US 2002/0033872 A1	1-6, 8-15